(घ) बाल श्रम से संबंधित सरकारी योजनाओं और कार्यक्रमों का लक्ष्य उसका उत्तरोत्तर उन्मूलन करना है। राष्ट्रीय बाल श्रम नीति, 1987 श्रम मंत्रालय की सहायता अनुदान योजना और अन्तर-राष्ट्रीय श्रम संगठन द्वारा हाल ही में शुरू किए गए अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाल श्रम उन्मूलन कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत बाल श्रमिकों को कल्याण एवं उनके पुनर्वास से संबंधित परियोजनाएं चलाई जाती हैं। इन योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत नई परियोजनाओं की पहचान की जाती है और उन्हें समय-समय पर कार्यान्वित किया जाता है।

1981 की जनगणना के अनुसार सम्पूर्ण श्रम बल में बाल श्रम की प्रतिशतता 5.03 है।

MATERNITY BENEFIT ACT

2446. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased i to state :

(a) whether the All India Women's Association demanded withdrawal of the allegedly by atrocious' amendment i fo the Maternity Benefit Act depriving maternity benefit's io working women in respect of the third child; and invited attention to the rampant incidence cf female foeticide and girl-infanticide;

(b) if so, what was the Governments response to this demand; and

(c) whether Government are also considering the question of granting incentives to unmarried working women esp-pecially in Government and Public Sector jobs, rather than withdrawing the maternity benefits if so, the details in his regard?

TOE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b) The Government has received some representation! protesting against the proposed amend ment in the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 2123 RSS/94—15

to restrict the grant of maternity benefit to women workers upto two living children. The views of the women's organisations have been noted and will be kept in view while finalising the proposal.

fc) No, Sir.

POSTS LYING VACANT AT VARIOUS COACHING-CUM-GUIDANCE CENTRES

2447. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: i Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased ; to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Singular Operational Posts of Sub-Regional Employment Officer (SREO) and Assistant Employment Officer (AEO) lying vacant since long at various Coach-ing-cum-Guidance C5entre for SC ST.

(b) if so, the details of Centre-wise position of occurrence of such vacancies period from which such posts are vacant alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are not indinfcd to fill up these posts urgently; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take for filling up these posts urgently to protect the interest of unemployed educated SC|ST candidates?

; THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY 'WELFARE (SHRI PABAN SINGH I GHATOWAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of Centre-wise position of occurrence of vacancies, period from which such posts are vacant alongwith reasons therefor is given in the statement I and II (see below) for Sub-Regional Employment Officers anil Assistant Em-ployipent Officers respectively.

(c) and (d) The Recruitment process has been initiated to fill up the vacant posts.